

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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Contact: Sara Parsons
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 160 JOBS IN DURHAM COUNTY ***\$175,000 One North Carolina Fund Grant Assists United Therapeutics***

RALEIGH-Gov. Mike Easley today announced that United Therapeutics Corporation, a leading biotechnology company, will build a facility in North Carolina, creating 160 new jobs and investing \$54.3 million over three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$175,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

"United Therapeutics' decision to expand in North Carolina is a testament to our business-friendly climate and skilled workforce," Easley said. "Ernst & Young has recognized North Carolina as the No. 3 location in the nation for biotechnology and this announcement further strengthens our reputation in this competitive, global industry."

United Therapeutics will build a new 125,000-square-foot administration, research-and-development and manufacturing facility in the Research Triangle Park. The company currently operates one research-and-development facility in the Research Triangle Park which employs 28 people. United Therapeutics develops products for patients with chronic and life-threatening cardiovascular and infectious diseases and cancer. While wages will vary by job function, the expected average yearly wage of the new jobs is \$65,000 not including benefits, which is higher than the Durham County yearly average wage of \$34,268 not including benefits.

"We are pleased that North Carolina, through the One North Carolina Fund, welcomes our expanding pharmaceutical operations and the associated jobs that will be created in the RTP area," said Roger Jeffs, president and chief operating officer of United Therapeutics. "We look forward to working with the state as we continue to expand our business operations."

The One North Carolina Fund assists the state in industry recruitment and expansion by providing financial assistance through local governments to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. One North Carolina Fund grants require and are contingent upon a local match. Through the use of this Fund, more than 18,000 jobs and \$2.5 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

Other partners who helped make this announcement possible include the N.C. Department of Commerce, Durham County, the Durham County Chamber of Commerce, The Research Triangle Foundation and N.C. Community College System.

For more information about the company and employment opportunities, please visit www.unither.com

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Governor's Press Office
State Capitol, Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919) 733-5612 - Toll Free 1-800-662-7005
FAX (919) 733-5166